

## **INDEPENDENCE ROCK**

**60 miles southwest of Casper on Wyoming Route 220**

This rounded granite outcropping, 1,900 feet long and 850 feet wide, thrusting upward from a level plain, had been a well-known landmark for years, even before the Oregon Trail passed nearby. By 1840 it was regarded as “the great registry of the desert,” because so many travelers painted or carved their names on it. One of the earliest graffiti artists inscribed the word “Independence,” thus providing a name for those who followed.